

SINGER'S LOSSES IN GEM ROBBERY NOW FIVE RINGS

Reported Theft Came Just
Before Departure on
Concert Tour.

SUSPECTS EXONERATED

Police Believe Mrs. Jessica
Tumbridge's Valuables May
Be Only Missing.

The reported robbery some time last evening in the photographic studio of Ira D. Schwartz, No. 113 West 45th Street, of jewelry said to have been valued at \$100,000, as reported by Mrs. Jessica L. Tumbridge, widow of the former owner of the St. George Hotel in Brooklyn and a concert singer under the name of Alton Winterburn, to-day dwindled to the missing in the home of the singer of five rings, the most costly of which is valued by her at \$4,000.

As a consequence, police of the West 45th Street Station have passed up their investigation of the case, and the photographer, his clerk and a maid employed by him who had been placed under suspicion by the report, have been completely exonerated. This also goes for the taxi driver who took Mrs. Tumbridge to her home after she had had her pictures taken in the studio.

In her first story to the police Mrs. Tumbridge declared that she believed she had lost her jewelry in the studio. Asked what it was worth, she declared: "I wouldn't take \$100,000 for it." She then explained that some of it was from the collection of Mrs. Tom Thumb, which had been presented to the midwife by some of the crowned heads of Europe. Police swooped down upon the photographic studio and questioned all hands, but this morning Mrs. Tumbridge recollected, they say, that she had the jewelry when she returned to her home, No. 243 East 72d Street.

Police of the East 67th Street Station, in whose precinct she resides, took up the investigation to-day and learned that the value placed on the missing jewelry was highly exaggerated. A young man whose identity was not learned accompanied the singer and answered all questions for her. He was authority for the information that Mrs. Tumbridge is planning a grand opera and concert tour.

Mrs. Tumbridge has been a widow since May, 1921, when Capt. William Tumbridge died from injuries received when a tree fell upon him while he was motoring in Clinton Street, Brooklyn.

Mrs. Tumbridge is a daughter of Frank Lyons of No. 77 Hancock Street, Brooklyn. She became the second wife of Capt. Tumbridge in 1913 when he was sixty-nine and she not half his age. The Hotel St. George property was sold last week by the Tumbridge estate for a price reported to be \$2,000,000.

DEATH THREAT BY WIFE ALLEGED BY DENTIST

Voiced Inclination to Imitate
Oblivia Stone, He Says.

Justice Tompkins, sitting in the Supreme Court, White Plains, to-day heard arguments and accepted affidavits in the suit for separation brought against Dr. D. Henry Westfelling, a dentist at Third Avenue and 145th Street, the Bronx, by his wife, who lives in New Rochelle. Mrs. Westfelling in her application for alimony claimed her husband's profits are in excess of \$7,000 a year.

The doctor admits that he once had a good business, but said in an affidavit that his wife ruined it by antagonizing herself in the hallway outside his office and telling his prospective and actual patients that he was conducting a disorderly house. At the time Oblivia Stone, the nurse, killed Lawyer Kincaid in Brooklyn, the doctor's affidavit stated his wife told him that she had an inclination to imitate the Stone woman.

Bernhardt, Stricken at Theatre, Refuses Pleas to Abandon Stage, Saying, 'Rest for Me Means Death'

Physicians Insist Few Days' Vacation Necessary, but
78-Year-Old Immortal Will Not Surrender to
Life of Ease.

PARIS, Dec. 18.—"My son insists that I take a rest—but for me rest means death."

The immortal Sarah Bernhardt, stricken as she was about to appear in Sacha Guitry's new play at the Edward VII. Theatre, thus defied the entreaties of friends that she abandon the stage and spend the years that are left her in ease and comfort.

A bulletin issued this afternoon by Madame Bernhardt's physicians said: "The crisis has fortunately and rapidly terminated. It exacts, however, absolute repose for some days, with complete isolation."

"There is really no danger," Dr. Desnos later assured the United Press. "Mrs. Bernhardt will live to attend my funeral yet."

The one very real peril, however, it is admitted, is Bernhardt's refusal to surrender and concede herself an old woman, despite her seventy-eight years.

"I am going to return to the stage as soon as I have recovered from this slight indisposition," she insisted to friends who urged her to give up.

Her manner was vigorous, and she remained bright and cheery in defiance of the malady, diagnosed by physicians as syncope-fainting followed by stupor.

"In the morning," she said, in describing her attack, "I felt perfectly well. Then suddenly I felt as if a dagger had been thrust into my back."

"My whole body was like ice. I was able to call for help, but I don't know what happened afterward."

"I don't want to die like Moliere," she insisted. "I am all right now. But if I sleep to rest I will die."

Bernhardt was taken ill in her dressing room, just before the crowd began to arrive for the production of "Un Sujet de Bonheur." A throng assembled in front of the dark theatre and many rumors that the great actress was at the point of death went through the assemblage. The people dispersed slowly after the announcement was made that her illness was not considered serious.

Bernhardt was able to go home in her car, but suffered a relapse immediately upon reaching there. Her ailment manifests itself in a series of



SARAH BERNHARDT

Snakes 20 Feet Long in Hold Of Ship That Had Just Left Cuba

Skipper, Suspicious at First, but They Were Real
Snakes—Dry Agents Get Scare of Their Lives.

The 114 passenger of the Ward Line Orizaba, arriving to-day from Havana, came down the gangplank looking backward, registering nervousness, not to say regret and aversion.

The Orizaba left Havana Dec. 16. Late in the evening of Dec. 17 Second Steward Charles Haggerty went down into the hold looking for something. He came up through the gangways with his countess flustering behind him and reported to the Captain that the hold was full of snakes a mile long.

"We have been out of Cuba for twenty-four hours," said the skipper. "There's no excuse for this sort of thing."

Chief Engineer Albert Torison happened to be sitting with the skipper at the time and volunteered to go down and make a survey which would serve as the basis for disciplining Haggerty for making such disquieting reports. In about two minutes Torison was back.

"Skipper," he gasped, "it is true! The man is right! There are two of them."

An emergency detachment of twenty men went down into the hold with mauls, axes, and ice picks and killed two twenty-foot box constrictors which had looked out of a crevice close to the Orizaba and the southbound trip of the Orizaba and had not been missed.

Yesterday noon Haggerty burst into the skipper's office again.

"There's another one down there," he said.

The skipper called in the purser and

"LIAR," SAYS LEACH TO POLICEMAN ON TRIAL OVER BOOZE

Sergeant, Patrolmen and
Witnesses Tell Different
Stories About Bribe.

"Somebody is certainly lying," remarked Deputy Police Commissioner Leach at the trial of Patrolmen Charles H. Selfried and Walter A. Askund of the Bath Beach Precinct at Brooklyn Headquarters to-day.

Commissioner Leach's statement appeared to be fair enough in the light of the testimony. He passed the records of the trial along to Commissioner Enright.

Selfried and Askund were accused by Inspector Kuhne of failing to make an arrest for illegal transportation of liquor and accepting a bribe.

"I was told," said the Inspector, "that on Oct. 6, 1922, at 7:30 o'clock in the evening, Tony Martorello, an expressman, was held up at Harway Avenue and Coney Island Creek as he was driving a truck carrying two barrels of wine to Coney Island and that the policemen were Sgt. James Noziglia, Patrolman Selfried and Askund and Probationary Patrolman Robert Stacey. Stacey has since been dropped. Noziglia is to be tried later."

"My information was that Sgt. Noziglia asked Martorello for \$100. Martorello didn't have it. Sgt. Noziglia ordered Askund, his driver, to take Tony to Coney Island in the Sergeant's car and get the money. The order was obeyed. Tony got the money from his cousin, Louis Bruno, and took it back to Coney Island Creek where he handed it to Selfried. Then Selfried gave the money to the Sergeant, who kept \$40 and gave \$20 to each of the three patrolmen."

"Selfried and Askund are excellent policemen with good records and are old friends of mine. Selfried admitted to me that he took the money from Martorello and gave it to the Sergeant. I consider the Sergeant the responsible man in this case. The patrolmen had to obey his orders."

Selfried and Askund when called to testify in their own defense flatly denied that they had taken a cent from Sgt. Noziglia or anybody else. Commissioner Leach attacked Selfried as a liar, but the policeman stood firm in his denial.

Then Tony Martorello was called. He denied getting any money from Louis Bruno or paying any money to a police officer. He said he did not remember admitting to Inspector Kuhne that he had paid a bribe.

Louis Bruno on oath contradicted his cousin. He said Martorello came to him with a policeman in a police car and asked for \$100 and got it and drove away.

"How do you account for these discrepancies?" Commissioner Leach asked Inspector Kuhne.

"In a case of this kind," replied the Inspector, "policemen are actuated by a traditional spirit of mistaken honor or loyalty which forbids them to 'snitch' on each other."

M'GRAW WINS SUIT BROUGHT AGAINST HIM FOR \$30,000

Court Holds Giant Manager
Not Responsible for Chauffeur
Running Down Woman

The complaint was dismissed by Supreme Court Justice Tierney to-day in the suit for \$30,000 damages brought against John J. McGraw, manager of the New York Giants, by Mrs. Mary A. Butterfield of No. 108 West 102d Street, on the ground that it had been proved McGraw's chauffeur was driving the bus when the automobile without his permission when he ran down the woman at 67th Street and Broadway on Oct. 3, 1917. The court did not allow the case to go to the jury.

Manager McGraw took the stand to-day and told how his chauffeur, Frank Kauff, had driven Mr. and Mrs. McGraw to the Pennsylvania station on the afternoon of Oct. 3. He told Kauff to take the car "right back" to the garage and leave it there until he heard from Mrs. McGraw upon her return from Baltimore in three days.

The giant manager was enroute to Chicago for the world series, while his wife went to Baltimore to visit her parents for a few days.

The testimony showed that Kauff evidently used the car for several hours and while accompanied by two men, friends, ran down Mrs. Butterfield on Broadway at 11 o'clock at night.

Justice Tierney paid a final comment to John M. Ward, counsel for McGraw and a former friend of Ward, who had asked Frank H. Behler, giant fan and friend of McGraw, "he was a baseball fan."

"I sure am," declared Behler. Justice Tierney then interrupted a remark to the defendant's counsel.

"Mr. Ward, if the ball players could play baseball a year and a day, I wouldn't have any more of them. And you aren't one of them."

Mr. Ward smiled rather lamely and

Mrs. Gimbel's Christmas Treat Will Gladden 1,000 Child Hearts

Wife of New York Merchant, Now in Florida, Will Send
a Thousand Xmas Boxes to Welfare Board.

Perhaps one of the most joyous yuletide affairs planned for this year is the Christmas treat to take place next Sunday at the Board of Child Welfare Building, No. 145 Worth Street.

One thousand children who, because of the conditions in the family either through illness of the widowed mother or some such distress, would not likely enjoy Christmas cheer, are not to be disappointed in getting their holiday pleasures.

No pains have been spared by the members of the Board of Child Welfare to bring joy to the hearts of just such children in this undertaking.

Mrs. Bernard F. Gimbel, wife of the well known merchant, who with her three children is spending the winter in Miami, Fla., hearing of the efforts being made by the Child Welfare Board to aid these fatherless children, has proved a veritable fairy godmother and will send a box of things for each child, containing "something warm to wear, something dainty and something good"—a worth-while present, indeed, that will delight any child.

Besides this splendid piece of work, Mrs. Gimbel is preparing a similar treat for the poor children of Miami. She sent the following message to Sophie Irene Loeb, President of the Board of Child Welfare:

"My heart goes out to these unfortunate, fatherless children and my best wishes go with the gifts. I will enjoy my holiday with my own children, a much better heart knowing that I have contributed in any way to the happiness of these dependent wee ones."

"No better work can be done than to get behind the children at any and all times—the future citizens of the Nation—and certainly the Christmas period is the one in which they are so directly concerned."

Two huge Christmas trees are being decorated for the occasion and a delightful program has been prepared. Among the features arranged for the pleasure of the children will be a remarkable apparatus imported from Italy portraying the educated "Prince and Judy" family, to be manipulated by Signor Demont, assisted by Signorina Leonetta.

The most unique feature, together with some other mystifying acts, were secured through the efforts of Houdini, and it is not unlikely that this great king of mystifiers, according to his own words, "will not be able to resist the call of such a thousand," and may come himself.

As one of the members remarked:

"The best is none too good for these children."

There will be music furnished by the boys of the Hebrew Orphan Asylum Band. Other features of the program will be announced later in the week.

The members of the Board of Child Welfare are Sophie Irene Loeb, President; Dr. William L. Strohman, Miss Mary A. Frasca, the Rev. William A. Courtney, Mrs. William Kasten, Conrad Engel, Mrs. Mathias Figuera, John D. Rosenbrock, Mrs. Edgar Smith and Mrs. James Whitford. The latter is Chairman of the Christmas Treat Committee.

May 8, last, at 5 o'clock in the afternoon, there was a battle on the

TWO STORES NEAR CITY HALL ROBBED BY SAFE BLOWERS

Drug and Cigar Shops
Looted of \$1,200 in Cash,
Presumably by Same Gang.

Burglars who were certain of their ground made their way into Lippert's drug store, No. 170 Nassau Street, some time early yesterday morning by entering the cellar through the elevator shaft and made away with about \$700 in cash and merchandise believed to have been worth nearly \$1,000. It was learned to-day. Police had kept the robbery secret, and the manager of the store declared that he had been pledged to secrecy by them.

On the upper floor of the building a Chinese restaurant keeps open until 2 or 4 o'clock in the morning, and it is believed the robbery was perpetrated after that time. The elevator door on the ground floor was forced and then the elevator raised sufficiently to permit the entrance of men into the pit, which is about nine feet below the street level. In this pit is a small door leading to the cellar of the Lippert store.

This door was jammed, making a hole about fourteen by sixteen inches, and one of the burglars went through it and dropped about ten feet into a locked partition, from which he procured a ladder for his comrades.

The band then made their way to the store and forced the safe, which was on the mezzanine floor in the rear of the store. On their way out they took with them perfumes, cigars and other merchandise.

About a year ago the Chinese restaurant having been made from the roof.

Another robbery, believed to have been perpetrated by the same band, was discovered in the United Cigar Store at No. 102 Park Row, from which \$500 in cash, \$200 in coupons and several hundred dollars worth of stock was stolen.

The burglars entered from William Street and forced iron bars and an iron shutter on a rear window and made their way into the stock room of the store. They broke open the safe and left the way they came. The door of the stock room showed them from being seen by police.

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BOOTLEG RIVALS STAGE GUN FIGHTS TWICE IN NIGHT

One Man Shot, Crowds Scatter
as Battling Shakes
"Curb Market."

Two successive pistol battles at Grand and Mott Streets last night were attributed by the police to the better competition of the bootleggers' Curb Market which has flourished there for three years.

The first fight started a little after 10 o'clock when five men lined up on the curb of Mott Street and began firing at a group on the other side of the street. Charles Palmer of No. 2106 Bath Avenue, Brooklyn, fell to the sidewalk.

Police alarms brought automobile patrols from Police Headquarters, two blocks away. Deputy Chief Inspector Dominick Henry, bending over Palmer, was startled by a new volley fired into a band which had gathered to watch his removal into an ambulance from St. Vincent's Hospital.

Detectives chased the crowd from which the shots came and caught Joseph and James Ballantine of No. 5159 New Utrecht Avenue, Brooklyn. They were taken to the hospital to the bedside of Palmer, who shook hands with them heartily, said they were his "best friends" and that they could not have had anything to do with the shooting. They were locked up none the less.

The surgeons of St. Vincent's said Palmer was unlikely to live out the day.

The Ballantines have been in trouble with the police before, according to the records. Joseph has been charged with robbery and homicide and James with homicide, though they were discharged for lack of evidence.

May 8, last, at 5 o'clock in the afternoon, there was a battle on the

same corner in which Hildio Tagliagande was killed and six innocent bystanders were wounded. It was reported that he had gone to the spot to "get" Joseph Massaro, who was well known in the neighborhood.

Aug. 8, several persons, who were unlikely enough to be in the vicinity of Massaro at Fifth Street and Second Avenue, a band of men appeared behind him and opened fire on a group at the opposite corner, killing Umberto Ballanti and wounding Agnes Ehlinger, a little girl, and Joseph Schapi, a street cleaner.

The police say Massaro was in the neighborhood last night.

MAX SPIEGEL FAILS IN SHOW BUSINESS FOR \$1,000,000

Producer, in Sanitarium, Has
\$300,000 Assets, Creditors
Say in Bankruptcy Suit.

Involuntary proceedings in bankruptcy were instituted to-day by creditors of Max Spiegel, theatrical producer and theatre owner, who was committed to a sanitarium in Stamford, Conn., a wee kago by his relatives on the ground that his business troubles had caused a mental collapse.

The petitioners in to-day's proceedings in the United States District Court were Moses C. Rosenbaum, with claims of \$20,000; Edwin Monell, \$8,000, and Charles Mohr, \$2,223. The attorney for the creditors, Edwin Osterburg, stated that Spiegel's liabilities amounted to more than \$1,000,000 and that his assets appeared to be about \$200,000.

Sol Brill and Edward Hymes were appointed receivers by Judge Mass under a bond of \$25,000 each.

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B. Altman & Co.

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Another Special Offering of Men's Brushed Wool Mufflers

at the remarkably low price of

\$1.65

Just in time for these colder days, and in
good season for Holiday Gifts

These Mufflers are made of fine-quality brushed worsted,
and may be obtained in camel, oxford, green or brown
heather, and mottled and striped effects.

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Men's Winter-weight Wool Undergarments

comprising Vests, Drawers (to match) and Union
Suits, all of the best and most reliable qualities,
are shown in the regular stock at very advantageous prices.

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